

# **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

## **Solid Waste Committee Meeting Minutes**

February 9, 2006

### **I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:18 p.m. by Chairman Jolene "Jo" Funk.

**Members Present:** Chris Carazo; Paul "Bud Deghand; Dick Duree; Jolene "Jo" Funk; Nick Jefferson; Mike McClure; and Wayne Wagner.

**Others Present:** Shawn Dunstan, City staff; Mike Fraser, City staff; Jim Hill, City staff; and Ron Rouse, City staff.

**Members Not Present:** Dick Blanchard; Sheila Bolieu; Sandie Johnson; Dan Kieborz; and Matt Wagoner.

### **II. Special Announcement/ Presentations**

No special announcement or presentations.

### **III. Consent Agenda**

Dick Duree moved and Chris Carazo seconded a motion that all of the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion passed.

### **IV. Staff Reports**

#### **A. General 2006 Issues - (Mike Fraser)**

##### **1. Update on City of Salina Curbside Recycling Service**

Mike Fraser reported to the Committee that In April of 2005, the Salina City Commission authorized staff to provide a Curbside Recycling Service under City Sanitation starting on July 1, 2005. In order to pay for the operational costs of the new service, it was determined that the City would need at least 900 households paying a rate of \$4.90 per month. At the time of this decision, it was not clear if all 900 customers would be signed-up at the start of the service, so the City Commission authorized that this new service could operate as a non-self supporting operation until June of 2006. At which time, the City Commission would revisit the status of this operation, and decide if the Sanitation Division would continue to offer curbside recycling to the City Sanitation customers.

As of January 27, 2006, the City had 44 households signed up as customers or 56 short of our goal of 900 customers. As more households signed up each week for this service, it is beginning to appear that we might be able to report to the City Commission in June that we have achieved the goal of offering a self-supporting curbside recycling operation.

Our advertising campaign to encourage City Sanitation customers to sign-up for the service is continuing. During January and February, Access TV will provide public service announcements and the showing of the videos

"Recycling #102; The Next Level" and "Protecting the Kansas Environment; 10 Years of Progress." In addition, we filmed a spot on the Access TV talk show Strictly Salina that was shown on February 6<sup>th</sup> and will be shown again this evening, February 9<sup>th</sup>. In addition, Water Customer Accounting is continuing to place a recycling sign-up message on City water bills to help our efforts.

On February 3, 2006, we released a media news release informing the public that there are a limited number of positions available for the recycling service. We talked to the Salina Journal about the news release, and we are hopeful that they will write about the current status of the sign-up efforts and show a picture of the recycling truck.

So far we have not experienced any major operational problems with the new service, and our partnership with Images Recycling continues to be strong. Any issues that have developed have been quickly addressed and resolved. We have great confidence in our staff to provide a quality service and to correct any problems that might arise.

## **2. 2006 Solid Waste Venture Grant Program**

Sufficient funds are available to offer one round of Solid Waste Venture Grants in 2006. Our Finance Department anticipates a carry-over of about \$165,000 from 2005. This amount added to the \$90,000 in anticipated \$1 per-ton tipping fee revenue might give us a balance of around \$255,000. Once we pay for our anticipated expenses such as the Mulching Mower Rebate Program, approximately **\$11,000**; summer internship, approximately **\$5,500**; woodchip grinding, approximately **\$14,000**; other expenses (training, mailings, and advertising), approximately **\$1,000**; and payment on the 2005 Venture Grant awards of up to **\$6,500**; we could have as much as \$217,000 available for Solid Waste Venture Grants in 2006. The City Manager has told us that he will review the status of this fund later this year and determine how much should be offered in Solid Waste Venture Grant awards in 2006. Most likely the process would start sometime this summer in June/July with the acceptance of applications and the Solid Waste Committee review in August. The City Commission approval would most likely take place in an August/September time frame.

We would expect to see an increase in requests for the 2006 Venture Grants this year due to the series of recycling / diversion / reduction programs planned by Access TV this spring. Their educational seminar and live broadcast on recycling and diversion options directed towards small to mid-sized businesses in the community should build additional interest. This series of programs is a part of their 2005 Solid Waste Venture Grant award.

## **3. Mulching Mower Rebate Program**

Staff has sent out letters to all lawn mower vendors in the City notifying them that the City of Salina will be conducting the Mulching Mower Rebate Program again this year. The Program offers a \$25 rebate for the purchase of a mulching mower and \$10 for a mulching mower kit.

Residents of Saline County that have not obtained a rebate in the last five years are eligible. In the letter we informed businesses that the Program is under review and that 2006 may be the last year for rebates. City staff plans to bring a staff report before the Solid Waste Management Committee in August of this year to consider various options concerning the future of the Rebate Program. If the Solid Waste Committee decides to recommend changes or the elimination of the Program to the City Commission, there will be time to notify local businesses and the public of that change.

#### **4. Summer Internship**

At the December Solid Waste Management Committee meeting, the Committee supported the plan by City staff to once again hire an Intern to work on various solid waste related projects. The Intern's salary which might run between \$5,000 and \$6,000 would be paid from funds in the Solid Waste Fund that are collected in accordance with the City Landfill \$1 per-ton tipping fee designed to support solid waste recycling / reduction / diversion / public education activities.

The projects that the Intern would most likely work on during this three month summer time period would include investigation into the possibility of a City-run composting site, updating information on the question if the City should continue to offer the Mulching Mower Rebate Program, studying options for cardboard recycling, assisting with the design and production of educational materials, and if time is available, the Intern might be able to report on the solid waste collection method of Pay-As-You-Throw.

#### **5. Possible City Composting Operations**

The City of Salina has purchased land on North Marymount Road across from the Wastewater Treatment Plant that could serve as the location for a City operated composting site. This land acquisition was used in part to construct railroad tracks as a part of the North Ohio Street Overpass Project. With the completion of these tracks now scheduled for mid-April 2006, we have been told that the City intends to then focus attention on looking into the use of a portion of the land to build and operate a composting facility. My understanding is that City staff will be looking at 2006 as the timeframe to study a City composting operation. Formal meetings on this topic should begin sometime this year.

#### **6. 2006 WORKS Conference**

The 2006 WORKS Conference will be held in Great Bend, Kansas this year from March 28-30, 2006. This conference is a good opportunity to meet with solid waste government officials, KDHE staff, and private operators from around the state to learn about recycling, composting, and household hazardous waste issues. As in the past, the City will pay to send those Solid Waste Management Committee members to this conference that would like to attend. Expenses such as registration, travel, hotel, and meals will be handled in accordance with the City of Salina's travel/training policy. If Committee members are interested in

attending this conference, they will need to let Mike Fraser know and he will help them through this process.

**7. Retirement of Jim Hill**

Mike Fraser reminded the Committee that Jim Hill (City Sanitation Superintendent) will be retiring this June. Fraser acknowledged Jim for his contributions not only for the Sanitation operations, but also to the Solid Waste Committee. He told the Committee that Jim Hill has done a great job in providing the Committee with support, information, advice, suggestions, and guidance that have helped this group to make good decisions concerning solid waste issues that affect the whole county. Jim has provided good input and dedication to the City of Salina, the Sanitation Division, and to our Solid Waste Committee. He has worked for the City for 42 years. Those present thanked Jim for his efforts.

**8. Retirement of Bob Helm**

Mike Fraser also acknowledged the retirement of Bob Helm, Landfill Superintendent, who will be retiring in June after 30 years of service. Fraser said that Bob has been a great asset to the City, and has worked very hard at being able to run a first-class landfill operation. The facility is well run due to the contribution that Bob has made to be sure that things are run correctly. Bob is a very dedicated person who is very committed to the City and to the operations of the landfill. He will be missed.

**B. Status Report on the City Sanitation and Household Hazardous Waste Facility - (Jim Hill)**

Jim Hill reported to the Committee that the Sanitation Division is responsible for providing service to 14,230 City residential customers. Of that number, 844 are recycling customers, and 5,109 are customers that have the special yard waste containers. In 2005, the Sanitation Division collected 14,606 tons of refuse. The special pick-up service collected an estimated 144 tons of limbs. The yard waste service collected 2,750 tons of grass and leaves. The Street Division collected an estimated 148 tons of leaves in 2005. Other City Divisions have disposed of an estimated 5.13 tons of limbs. Overall, 2,903 tons of yard waste materials were diverted to Kanza Organics for recycling into compost and wood chips.

Jim told the Committee that the City had placed an order for 200 65-gallon yard waste carts which arrived in October 2005. When the yard carts arrived they were not complete. The manufacturer failed to print the yard waste only information on the sides of the carts as requested. The 200 yard carts were shipped back to the manufacturer to be imprinted with the missing information. The yard carts were returned to the Sanitation Division on January 4, 2006 and are available to our customers for the spring clean-up of grass, leaves, and garden materials. Currently there are 5,109 yard waste carts in service. The special yard carts are provided to the customer for a one-time fee of \$27.25. This is half of the purchase price of the container.

### **Special Pick-Up Service**

Jim Hill reported that Special Pick-Ups are available for large items and for piles of limbs on a call-in basis for all of our citizens. Our goal is to provide this service within 24 hours of the customer's request. In 2005, the Sanitation Division collected 2,301 special pick-ups, and all were collected within our 24-hour commitment.

### **Recycling**

Jim explained to the Committee that on July 1, 2005, the Sanitation Division began to offer a Curbside Recycling Service to our City Sanitation customers for a fee of \$4.90 per month. It was determined that we could provide curbside service to 900 customers using one truck and with one employee. When the service began, the City had 727 paying customers. By January 27, 2006, the customer count had risen to 844 customers. This leaves the curbside service 56 customer short of the 900 customers required for the service to be self-supporting. With additional advertising, staff believes that the service will be self-supporting by June 30, 2006. We have placed logo advertising on the side of the curbside recycling service truck including the phone number. In 2005, 180.8 tons of recyclables were collected. The average customer set out rate was 78%.

### **Household Hazardous Waste Facility**

Jim explained that in 2005, the Household Hazardous Waste Facility has provided service to 3,829 participants. The Facility collected 79,008 pounds of hazardous waste materials during this period of time. The Reuse Program has provided citizens an estimated 20,712 pounds or 1,726 gallons of useable latex paint and 3,231 pounds of other useable materials through the Reuse Program. There have been 2,310 pounds of old batteries and an estimated 28,584 pounds or 3,573 gallons of used motor oil recycled in 2005.

Public education and awareness about the hazardous materials was an important point for 2005. The HHW booth has been used four (4) times at various shows and gatherings. There were presentations made to 960 school-aged children and several presentations to different groups and clubs in the area in 2005. Advertising is done using five local radio stations and on Access TV to promote the HHW Facility year-round. The HHW Facility grows every year. It diverts materials from going to the Landfill.

### **C. Status Report on Landfill Operations - (Ron Rouse)**

Ron Rouse reposted to the Committee the following summary of accomplishments made by the Solid Waste Division during 2005.

In June of 2005, the Solid Waste Division received notification from Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) that because of the continuous efforts to meet the regulatory requirements for a Sub-Title D Landfill by the Solid Waste personnel, the frequency of inspections was reduced. The number of required inspections was reduced from bi-annual inspections to an annual inspection. This reduction of inspections is a result of the Landfill not having any violations over the past four years.

Ron explained that Cell #4 continues to be the major cell receiving waste. The 5' "fluff" layer of waste was completed early in 2005. The next major goal in 2005 was then to place waste in Cell #4 to allow for the proper drainage of stormwater. The priority was to eliminate the standing water and leachate in the lower elevations of the Cell, and to eliminate the flooding of the major access road into the Cell. The completion of this task took the Division four (4) months to phase in the placement of waste, the removal of storm water and leachate, and the construction of new access roads. In August of 2005, the ponding of stormwater and leachate was eliminated resulting in proper drainage of stormwater.

The next task was to complete an area located along the north side of Cell #2 and Cell #3. This area required professional surveying and setting out cut and fill stakes to allow for the construction of waste to the proper elevations. Phasing the placement of waste and traffic flow was the next challenge along with adding proper stormwater controls during the placement of waste. Stormwater controls were a critical issue due to the close proximity of the major drainage ditch. Leachate run-off needed to be controlled and separated from clean stormwater. Run-on controls had to be constructed to divert the stormwater coming from upper elevations around the open working area. This project also included the temporary closure of 3.5 acres of the Landfill. This area consisted of mostly 4% slope work. Intermediate cover was placed and compacted, and stormwater diversion structures were constructed. The entire area was then covered with a 6" layer of top soil, planted with a mixture of broom and fescue grasses, and mulched with hay. The project took the Solid Waste personnel approximately three months to complete. The completion of this area has reduced the amount of silt covering the north access road and drainage ditch. The completion of this area also allows the Solid Waste crew to begin the construction of another 15' lift of waste and moves toward the completion of the final 65' of elevation of Cell #3.

Ron Rouse reported to the Committee that Leachate issues were aggressively addressed in 2005. Due to the low elevations located in Cell #4 which caused extensive ponding of leachate combined with the production of leachate in the other Cells, personnel worked almost continuously during the first quarter of 2005 pumping and hauling leachate. Leachate was pumped from the ponds in the lower levels of Cell #4 as well as through the leachate system from the other Cells. Leachate is either recycled over areas of the Landfill to evaporate and to go back through the system (working its way back down through the trash) or hauled to the pump station in town. There were 1,401,500 gallons of leachate and contaminated water hauled in 2005. There were 662,000 gallons hauled to town, and 739,500 gallons re-circulated over the Cells at the Landfill.

Ron explained that Leachate pump controllers for our pneumatic leachate pumps have been replaced with newer models. The older controllers were difficult to keep working which is required by regulations. The original manufacturer went out of business and after almost a year of looking for and then working with a new company, landfill staff was able to replace the old

controllers with newer models. These newer models have components that are less susceptible to outside and internal contaminants and conditions. These new controllers are far more reliable, and are capable of keeping the leachate below the 12" head level which is required by regulations.

Ron Rouse discussed the revisions of the Operations Plan for the Landfill that began in 2005. Camp Dresser and McKee along with Solid Waste personnel went through the 12 year old Plan and updated it with improvements and additions. As of this date, KDHE is reviewing the updated Plan. Camp Dresser and McKee also started to develop other plans and guidelines for the Landfill such as a Gas Plan, amendments to our Leachate Recirculation Plan, and stormwater issues. These types of projects will keep the Solid Waste Division up-to-date and show the State authorities that the City is continuing to operate a first class operation.

The annual operating permit was obtained from KDHE along with the Aboveground Storage Tank Permit. All conditions and reporting requirements were met to renew the Class I, Title V Air Permit. The required ground water sampling was completed in June and December of 2005, and leachate samples were also taken in June. The analytical results and reports were sent to KDHE as required. The leachate results were also sent to the Waste Water Plant for their information and review.

Ron reported that Solid Waste personnel provided two weeks of "Free Landfill Days" in May of 2005. This was available to the citizens of Saline County and the City of Salina. This event allowed citizens with a coupon free access to the Landfill from May 7-21, 2005. In this two-week period, the Landfill handled 1,326 loads of refuse equaling 526.23 tons of waste.

Recycling efforts continue at the Landfill. White metal was recycled in July of 2005 totaling 134.87 tons with approximately that much on the ground at this time waiting for removal. Solid Waste personnel recycled a little over 2 tons of lead acid batteries that were pulled from the waste stream and 1,677 tires of mixed sizes or 51.83 tons which were sent off for recycling.

The tonnage received over the scale for 2005 was 88,096.78 tons which is 2,062.9 tons lower than the previous year. Saline County waste had reductions of 1,758.72 tons from last year, and the out-of-County waste had a reduction of 303.77 tons from the previous year. The combined out-of-County refuse has been below the 20,000 tons target for the last two years.

## **V. Committee Business**

### **A. 2006 Solid Waste Committee Goals**

Wayne Wagner moved and Dick Duree seconded a motion that 2006 Solid Waste Committee Goals that were in the January 26 Agenda be approved. The motion passed.

### **B. Election of a Committee Chair and Vice Chair for a One-Year Term**

Bud Deghand moved and Chris Carazo seconded a motion that Jolene "Jo" Funk serve as the Committee Chair for a one-year term. The motion passed.

Wayne Wagner moved and Dick Duree seconded a motion that Chris Carazo serve as the Vice-Chair for a one-year term. The motion passed.

**VI. Committee Member Open Forum - Comments**

Members of the Committee expressed their appreciation for both Jim Hill and Bob Helm. The Committee expressed interest in recognizing Bob Helm through the City Commission. Mike Fraser will take this request to the City Manager.

Chris Carazo brought some educational information handouts that were shared with the Committee.

Mike Fraser stated that the City of Salina has begun a new format for the annual reports for Boards and Committees. This new format for the annual reports is an effort to shorten the size of reports down to just a few pages. The Solid Waste Committee will continue to receive the charts and graphs as they have at the January and August meetings, but the annual report from the Committee will be the new format that is only several pages long which does not include the charts and graphs.

**VII. Adjournment**

Wayne Wagner moved, Chris Carazo seconded, that the Committee adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.